Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RD APRIL 26, 1965

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OF THE WEEK

SHAKE-UP AHEAD FOR SUPERSECRET AGENCY?

Selection of Vice Adm. William F. Raborn, Jr., to head the Central Intelligence Agency is seen as a move toward tighter White House control of the big, supersecret agency.

President Johnson announced on April 11 that he had picked Admiral Raborn to succeed John A. McCone as CIA Director. Mr. McCone's desire to return to private life has been known for some time.

There were surprises connected with the appointment. Under the last two Administrations, the CIA Director has been a civilian, rather than a military man. And, although the search for a successor to Mr. McCone had been on for some time, Admiral Raborn's name had seldom figured in the speculation.

The Admiral retired from the Navy in 1963. He had had a distinguished career as a naval aviator, capped by service as chief of the Navy's Special Projects office. In that capacity, he directed the team of engineers and scientists that developed the Polaris missile system, and earned a reputation as a crack ad-



For Admiral Raborn, top CIA spot

trol that he instituted are widely used tow in industry. Upon his retirement from the Navy in 1963 he became vice resident in charge of management of Aerojet-General Corporation in California. The company said it picked him because of his "ability to get tough jobs

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done in the shortest possible time." Running the CIA will be a new sort of task for the 59-year-old former Navy flier. The agency gathers intelligence on a world-wide scale. It often is accused also of engaging in foreign political intrigue. Most of its operations are shielded from public view, and even from too-close scrutiny by Congress.

Informed sources say the secrecy, independence and "sophisticated professionalism" of top CIA officials have disturbed the President. White House ideas and orders reportedly have been rejected or ignored in the past.

The orders went out, insiders say, for a tough administrator who would direct the giant agency with a strong hand and keep the President fully informed on the CIA's far-flung activities.

A Director was wanted, it is said, who would run the shop in his own way and yet transmit the President's orders into effective action.

Colleagues of "Red" Raborn during nis 39-year naval career say he fills the bill. And some observers believe the nation's most secret Government agency nay be facing a shake-up.